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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Weekly



Bulletin

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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

**Sterilize All
Drinking Utensils.**

This is the season when soft drinks are consumed in larger quantity than at any other time of year. Vendors of such drinks are obliged, under the law, to sterilize drinking receptacles as required by the regulations of the State Department of Public Health. In some communities there is a marked carelessness in observing the enforcement of the regulations. For the benefit of health officers and of the general public the state regulations are reproduced here.

NOTICE.

For your information, the law governing the sterilization of drinking receptacles may be briefly stated as follows:

You have the choice of three methods—

1. Individual paper receptacles.
2. Sterilization by steam in an apparatus acceptable to the State Department of Public Health.
3. Immersion for fully three minutes in boiling water to which soap flakes, chips or powder has been added. (To avoid unnecessary breakage it is advised that glasses be placed in cold water and then the container heated until the water boils.)

These regulations are being rigidly enforced, and you are hereby warned to immediately comply, as inspectors both state and local, are in the field with instructions to report for arrest all violators of this law.

W. M. DICKIE, M.D.,

Director, Department of Public Health, State of California.

**Figures Give
Food For Thought.**

56,707 people died in California during the year 1925.

85,492 children were born in California during 1925.

There were 55,081 marriages in the state during the same year.

5855 infants (under one year of age) died during 1925.

There were 2175 stillbirths during the same year and 490 mothers died in giving birth to children.

Of the 5855 infants who died during the year, 293 died of whooping cough, 827 of pneumonia, 946 of diarrhoea and enteritis, 540 of malformations and 2258 of diseases of early infancy.

Of the 56,707 individuals who died in 1925, 11,262 died of diseases of the circulatory system and 6129 died of diseases of the nervous system. Cancer took 5278 lives and tuberculosis of the lungs claimed 5186 victims. Pneumonia caused the death of 3624 and nephritis carried off 3837. 1109 persons committed suicide and 222 children under 15 years of age were killed by automobiles.

No attempt is made here to analyze these figures nor to give comparative rates with relation to population nor to deaths from other causes. The crude figures are given here in order to present an idea of the large numbers of deaths that occur within the state, which serves to emphasize, chiefly, the rapid growth of our population.

Counties' Infant Mortality Rates Vary.

Some California counties maintain fairly constant infant mortality rates year in and year out. Other counties show considerable variability in their infant death rates. For comparative purposes the average annual rates for the counties during the five-year period 1922 to 1926 and also the rates for the year 1926 are printed here. The rate for the state is also included in order to show further comparison. Too great significance must not be placed on the rates for many counties. It must be remembered that many of the mountain counties have, for the most part, few young adults, and consequently few children are born. Should a single infant in such a county die, a high mortality rate would result. Faulty birth registration, too, is responsible for high rates, since the infant mortality rate constitutes the number of infantile deaths that occur per thousand live births.

Infant Mortality Rates, California Counties, 1926.

1. Alpine	0
2. Colusa	0
3. Mariposa	0
4. Mono	0
5. Modoc	18.2
6. Inyo	19.0
7. Glenn	26.1
8. Monterey	35.5
9. San Mateo	35.6
10. Solano	38.5
11. Marin	39.6
12. Sacramento	41.7
13. Tehama	42.1
14. Shasta	44.7
15. Yolo	46.2
16. Napa	48.6
17. San Francisco	49.7
18. Placer	49.8
19. Mendocino	50.8
20. Santa Cruz	52.6
21. Del Norte	53.6
22. Contra Costa	53.8
23. Siskiyou	59.0
24. Stanislaus	59.5
25. Yuba	61.2
26. Humboldt	61.6
27. Lassen	62.5
28. Plumas	62.5
29. San Joaquin	63.3
30. Alameda	63.4
31. Sierra	64.5
32. San Luis Obispo	64.9
33. Sutter	64.9
34. Amador	65.4
35. Santa Barbara	67.0
36. Butte	67.6
37. Los Angeles	67.6
38. Tuolumne	69.2
39. Calaveras	70.2
40. San Diego	72.2
41. Tulare	72.3
42. Santa Clara	77.6
43. Nevada	79.1

44. Sonoma	79.2
45. El Dorado	83.3
46. Orange	83.8
47. Madera	87.3
48. Fresno	88.0
49. Merced	88.7
50. Kern	98.2
51. Ventura	99.4
52. San Bernardino	106.8
53. San Benito	110.1
54. Kings	118.4
55. Lake	129.0
56. Riverside	132.7
57. Trinity	153.8
58. Imperial	185.2
State of California	62.9

Infant Mortality, California Counties, Average Annual Rate for Five-year Period, 1922-1926.

1. Alpine	0
2. Colusa	0
3. Mono	33.3
4. Yuba	36.5
5. Mariposa	37.3
6. Glenn	38.8
7. Calaveras	46.9
8. Modoc	48.0
9. Santa Cruz	48.2
10. Marin	48.4
11. Placer	48.6
12. Sierra	49.3
13. Napa	50.5
14. Stanislaus	51.1
15. San Mateo	52.1
16. Sacramento	53.1
17. Inyo	53.7
18. Mendocino	53.9
19. Nevada	53.9
20. San Francisco	55.0
21. Del Norte	55.8
22. El Dorado	56.6
23. Monterey	57.8
24. Siskiyou	57.9
25. San Luis Obispo	58.7
26. Contra Costa	59.2
27. Sonoma	59.9
28. Shasta	60.6
29. Butte	60.9
30. Lassen	61.2
31. Solano	62.7
32. Humboldt	64.3
33. Yolo	65.9
34. Madera	66.4
35. Santa Barbara	66.5
36. Tulare	66.9
37. Tehama	66.9
38. Tuolumne	67.0
39. San Joaquin	67.1
40. Amador	67.5
41. Sutter	68.5
42. Plumas	69.8
43. San Diego	70.0
44. Alameda	71.2
45. Santa Clara	71.8
46. Merced	73.5
47. Kern	77.9
48. San Benito	79.3
49. Fresno	82.8
50. Los Angeles	89.2
51. Lake	91.0
52. Orange	93.9
53. Kings	102.9
54. San Bernardino	123.2
55. Ventura	130.0
56. Riverside	132.7
57. Trinity	141.4
58. Imperial	166.5
State of California	68.5

Every person should earn for himself the degree of bachelor of art—of living.—Dr. W. A. Evans.

How To Disinfect Small Water Supply.

There are several methods for the disinfection of small water supplies, all of which are reasonably effective, easy to apply and harmless. It should be understood that the thorough boiling of water is the easiest and cheapest method of disinfection. Nevertheless, it has certain drawbacks. Several common and well-known chemicals, procurable at any grocery or drug store, may also be used for the same purpose. The amounts necessary are infinitesimal and harmless if used as directed. The disinfection of small supplies is not more arduous than the preparation of foods for the table. It does not require laboratory equipment nor is much time involved. If the instructions are observed, the following method will prove quite effective in making the water safe.

A slight after-taste has no significance. A distinct unpalatability means that too much chemical has been used.

Boiling.—A very good means of destroying disease germs in water. Actually boil for at least five minutes. Aeration by splashing, pouring or otherwise, will cool the water and will improve the flat taste.

Disinfection With Iodine.—This is a handy chemical in every first-aid kit and also adapted to this purpose of disinfecting water.

For clear waters add 3 drops, such as is obtained with the ordinary eye dropper, of tincture of iodine, per quart. Add 6 drops per quart if the water is colored, cloudy or contains sediment. Enough iodine should be added to give a slight but distinct brown color to the water. Allow the treated water to stand at least fifteen minutes. If it is desirable to destroy the brown color due to the iodine and restore its original appearance, add a pinch of sodium thiosulphate or "hypo"—the chemical used for "fixing" in photographic work.

Example.—To treat a 3-gallon (12-quart) bucket half full of clear water; about 6 quarts to be treated: Add 18 drops (3 drops for each quart) of tincture of iodine. Mix and allow to stand at least 15 minutes. Then add a pinch of sodium thiosulphate. If brown color still persists, add another pinch. The water is ready for use.

In any group where women are really idle the attitude towards life degenerates.—Lady Rhondda.

Result Of Orange Preschool Round-up.

In a preschool drive held during April and May in Orange County 507 children of preschool age were examined by 43 physicians of the county. There were 468 parents present while the examinations were being given. This work was undertaken by the Parent-Teacher Association in cooperation with the Orange County Health Department and the physicians of the county.

Martinez Has New Health Officer.

Dr. Edwin Merrithew, who for many years in the past has served as City Health Officer of Martinez, has been reappointed to that office, succeeding Mr. C. P. Howard.

"The research work of people, both in the field and in the laboratory, has given us a good deal to catch up with. Our knowledge of how to prevent disease is sufficient now to allow the work in the field to be fully occupied for some years. Public health education—how to put the knowledge we have into practical operation and secure the cooperation of the public and the official and non-official bodies—is the great problem of national, state and local health agencies."—Hugh S. Cumming, M.D.

Petaluma Has New Health Officer.

Dr. G. R. Hubbell was appointed, July 15, city health officer of Petaluma to succeed Dr. H. S. Rogers.

MORBIDITY.*

Diphtheria.

65 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 1, Oakland 7, Colusa County 2, Los Angeles County 10, Alhambra 1, Beverly Hills 1, Huntington Park 1, Los Angeles 21, Pomona 1, Hawthorne 1, San Anselmo 1, St. Helena 1, Grass Valley 1, Orange County 3, Santa Ana 1, San Francisco 7, San Mateo County 1, Santa Clara County 1, Porterville 1, Ventura County 1, Marysville 1.

Measles.

50 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Albany 1, Oakland 4, Azusa 1, Los Angeles 5, Pomona 1, Orange County 1, Santa Ana 1, Placer County 6, Riverside 2, Sacramento County 1, San Bernardino 2, San Diego County 2, San Diego 5, San Francisco 4, San Luis Obispo County 1, Santa Barbara County 4, Santa Clara County 2, Gilroy 4, Palo Alto 1, Tuolumne County 2.

*From reports received on August 15th and 16th, for week ending August 13th.

Scarlet Fever.

38 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Alameda 2, Berkeley 1, Oakland 2, Calaveras County 1, Los Angeles County 4, Los Angeles 11, Whittier 1, South Gate 1, Sacramento 1, Ontario 1, San Bernardino 2, Chula Vista 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 5, San Joaquin County 1, Stockton 1, Tracy 1, Santa Barbara County 1.

Smallpox.

7 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Oakland 1, San Rafael 1, Sacramento County 3, Sacramento 2.

Typhoid Fever.

20 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Alameda 1, Colusa 1, Imperial County 1, Calexico 2, Los Angeles County 3, Los Angeles 3, Madera 1, Orange County 3, San Francisco 1, Stockton 1, Vallejo 1, California 2.

Whooping Cough.

160 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Alameda 7, Berkeley 23, Oakland 24, Los Angeles County 4, Alhambra 2, Claremont 1, Long Beach 3, Los Angeles 13, Pasadena 5, San Fernando 8, Madera County 2, Sausalito 2, Orange County 6,

Fullerton 4, Riverside 4, Sacramento County 2, San Diego County 3, San Diego 21, San Francisco 17, San Luis Obispo County 1, Santa Barbara County 7, Shasta County 1.

Poliomyelitis.

63 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 2, Oakland 8, Colusa County 2, Reedley 2, Kern County 4, Bakersfield 3, Los Angeles County 5, Glendale 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 5, Pomona 1, Santa Monica 1, South Pasadena 1, Marin County 1, Yosemite 1, Merced County 2, Merced 1, Sacramento 2, San Diego 2, San Francisco 6, San Mateo 1, Palo Alto 2, Santa Cruz County 2, Benicia 1, Vallejo 1, Tehama County 2, Red Bluff 1, Tuolumne County 1, Marysville 1.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

Modoc County reported one case of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever.

Encephalitis (Epidemic).

Two cases of epidemic encephalitis have been reported, as follows: San Mateo County 1, Yolo County 1.

Meningitis (Epidemic).

Two cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Fresno County 1, Alameda 1.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1927				1926			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Aug. 13 received by Aug. 16	Week ending			Reports for week ending Aug. 14 received by Aug. 17
	July 23	July 30	Aug. 6		July 24	July 31	Aug. 7	
Anthrax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Botulism.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chickenpox.....	75	88	62	29	43	46	35	32
Diphtheria.....	57	77	75	65	106	96	87	55
Dysentery (Bacillary).....	1	3	0	0	4	12	0	1
Encephalitis (Epidemic).....	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	0
Gonococcus Infection.....	83	85	150	88	91	96	105	122
Influenza.....	6	3	2	4	5	1	11	3
Jaundice (Epidemic).....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Leprosy.....	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria.....	2	3	0	3	2	0	6	2
Measles.....	124	78	60	50	156	161	123	103
Meningitis (Epidemic).....	3	5	6	2	2	1	4	3
Mumps.....	47	29	39	22	51	51	42	44
Paratyphoid Fever.....	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	1
Pneumonia (Lobar).....	32	39	29	19	25	61	26	24
Poliomyelitis.....	68	65	59	63	6	5	5	4
Rabies (Animal).....	1	6	1	3	6	7	8	4
Rabies (Human).....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	71	59	68	38	63	60	56	46
Smallpox.....	6	7	7	7	10	17	11	11
Syphilis.....	87	84	178	102	100	78	169	144
Tetanus.....	2	1	0	0	1	2	4	1
Trachoma.....	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	4
Trichinosis.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis.....	181	214	194	165	144	202	205	151
Typhoid Fever.....	16	23	16	20	19	32	33	19
Typhus Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	143	132	134	160	49	83	41	67
Totals.....	1009	1004	1083	844	885	1018	976	843

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